



TO: Tennessee Educators
FROM: Deborah Knoll, STEM cluster career consultant
SUBJECT: **Call to serve on STEM Leadership Council**

The department is pleased to release the second cohort application for the STEM Leadership Council. The goal of the STEM Leadership Council is to help implement and support department academic and programmatic initiatives; support K-12 STEM-related teachers and school and district-based administrators on the execution of K-12 STEM focuses; and provide valuable feedback to the department on STEM academic, technical, and employable matters.

The STEM Leadership Council will be composed of 20 individuals from K-12, postsecondary, and industry. Individuals serving on this council must commit to a two-year term and have experience in, and/or promotion of, STEM-related learning or industry. Competitively selected members will be compensated with a stipend. The stipend will cover attendance at scheduled quarterly meetings, as well as the annual Institute for CTE Educators conference for a total of \$10,000 for full participation in the two-year membership term. ALL members will receive travel reimbursement for participation in all STEM Leadership Council meetings.

Please complete the application below. Be sure to include all requested signatures. Mail the completed application to the address below by **May 31, 2016**.

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Requirements:

Council members will commit to:

- Serve a two- year term
- Attend quarterly full-day, in-person meetings, including the annual Institute of CTE Educators
- Provide overall guidance and feedback to the Department on the Tennessee STEM strategic plan and ongoing statewide or regional initiatives.
- Prepare for in-person meetings by reviewing documents, completing pre-work and research as assigned (time will be defined, could be completed on their schedule)
- Serve as facilitators, guest speakers, or panelists at STEM events, trainings, and PD sessions
- Partner with a local STEM Hub and/or Platform school to learn about initiatives, focuses, and approaches and offer critical feedback and support when needed
- Assist in the development of academic and career-related modules as defined by the Tennessee STEM Strategic Plan (K-12 educators)
- Serve as developers and facilitators of STEM teacher trainings and professional development sessions (K-12 educators)
- Agree to host teacher and administrator externships at their companies (industry members)
- Work with schools to help coordinate work-based learning (WBL) opportunities for the students (industry members)

Meetings

Tentative Schedule of Quarterly Meetings

Quarter	Agenda	Date
Fall 2016	Onboarding of new/returning Council members and review the strategic plan	September 2016
Winter 2017	Review and implement the strategic plan	January 2017
Spring 2017	Review and implement the strategic plan	April 2017
Summer 2017	Review and implement the strategic plan	July 2017
Fall 2017	Review and implement the strategic plan	September 2017
Winter 2018	Review and implement the strategic plan	January 2018
Spring 2018	Review and implement the strategic plan	April 2018
Summer 2018	Review and implement the strategic plan	July 2018
Fall 2018	Onboarding of new/returning Council members	September 2018

Additional Information:

- Full payout of stipends are subject to completion of all required services for the duration of the contract.
- Travel costs will be reimbursed for all official travel related to the STEM Leadership Council.

STEM Leadership Council Application

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Address: _____

Applicant Phone: _____

Applicant Email: _____

School District: _____ School employed (if applicable) _____

Teacher License Number: _____

1. I support the CORE values of the Department of Education.

Strongly Agree Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Excellence - We hold ourselves and our colleagues to high standards for our daily work and for reaching our goals. We actively seek and give feedback in an effort to advance outcomes for ourselves and the students we serve. We believe in the importance of continuous improvement, and we constantly strive for a higher level of performance in all of our work.

Optimism - We believe in the potential of all Tennessee students to reach high levels of academic achievement. We believe that, in collaboration with our colleagues across the state, we can and will build a system that helps our students meet their potential. We operate with a strong sense of possibility that we can accomplish difficult tasks, and we foster innovation in ourselves and others.

Judgment - We aspire to make wise decisions. Therefore, we seek input from a diverse set of perspectives and think critically about the impact of our choices. We use accurate data to set goals, analyze results, and to make changes based on evidence.

Courage - We are unwaveringly student-centered in our decision making, prioritizing the needs of students over the comfort of adults. We align our words and our actions to the core belief that all students can achieve at a high level when we provide the opportunities that they deserve. We make hard decisions to improve the academic achievement and life prospects of Tennessee students.

Teamwork - We believe that excellent teams, composed of high-performing team members, can have an enormous impact on student achievement. We value the diverse experiences and commitment to service that each team member brings. We strive to communicate effectively within teams and across teams, ensuring that we are successful in helping all Tennessee students reach their potential.

2. I support the Tennessee Department of Education's STEM vision and mission.

Strongly Agree Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Vision: To advance Tennessee as the leading state in STEM education, developing a workforce able to compete and succeed in the current and emerging global economy.

Mission: To promote rigorous STEM-related learning opportunities for all students that lead to postsecondary achievement and high quality careers.

3. I believe that STEM-related learning is an important support for the academic achievement of all students.

Strongly Agree Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

4. I am willing to participate in the creation of materials and resources to help support teachers and directors.

Strongly Agree Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

5. I feel comfortable in a leadership role.

Strongly Agree Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

6. I believe that teacher evaluation is a necessary tool to improve instruction.

Strongly Agree Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

7. I have attended TEAM (or related teacher evaluation system) training.

Yes No

8. I believe that Tennessee academic standards have an essential impact on K-12 STEM education.

Strongly Agree Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

9. I believe that Tennessee academic standards and K-12 STEM education will lead to improved student learning for the majority of students in Tennessee.

Strongly Agree Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

10. What do you believe will be the top two challenges to implementing STEM education in your school or district? (check two)

- ☐ Teachers will need more information about how to apply STEM strategies and integration
- ☐ Teachers will need quality STEM specific professional development
- ☐ Teachers will need more time to collaborate amongst colleagues when integrating across subjects
- ☐ Teachers will need more aligned textbooks, materials, and resources
- ☐ Schools will need more parental involvement
- ☐ Schools will need more school and district administrator support
- ☐ Schools will need more community and industry support

Applicant Questions:

Please keep to less than 500 words.

1. Explain your vision for STEM education in Tennessee
2. Explain the biggest challenges facing STEM education and/or STEM occupational opportunities here in Tennessee

Requirements: Please initial each one

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- ☐ Prepare for in-person meetings by reviewing documents, completing pre-work and research as assigned (time will be defined, could be completed on their schedule)
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Signature of applicant _____

Date _____

Signature of Principal _____

Date _____